SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSURE

PROCEEDINGS

RE: DARCY J. KNOLLS, RN

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR PROBATION

License No. R-033942,

Licensee.

WHEREAS, Darcy J. Knolls, RN ("Licensee"), holds a license to practice as a registered nurse in the State of South Dakota (License Number R-033942); and

WHEREAS, Licensee, while licensed as a registered nurse in the State of Minnesota (License Number 160974-3), admitted to diversion of controlled substances and entered into the Minnesota Health Professionals Services Program on or about March 19, 2004; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 12, 2004, the Licensee informed the Minnesota Health Professionals Services Program that she could not comply with the monitoring because of lack of resources and wished to withdraw from the program. Licensee had at that time relocated to the State of South Dakota and had applied for her South Dakota nursing license. At the time of application, no discipline against her license was noted on the NURSYS; and

WHEREAS, in January, 2005, the Minnesota Board of Nursing sought to have the Licensee enter into a Stipulation and Consent for Suspension of her Minnesota license

because of her withdrawal from the Minnesota Health Professional Services Program; and

WHEREAS, the Licensee advised the Minnesota Board of Nursing that she had relocated to South Dakota, had been seeking counseling and had self reported and entered into the South Dakota Health Professional Assistance Program ("HPAP") and was addressing the issues that had lead to her diversion and was wishing to return the practice of nursing; and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2005, the Minnesota Board of Nursing offered Licensee to enter into a Stipulation and Consent Order for a civil penalty, and limitations and conditions on her Minnesota License in order to allow her license to remain active in Minnesota and allow the Minnesota Board to monitor her practice should she intend to return to Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2005, the Licensee appeared before the South Dakota Board of Nursing Staff for an Informal Meeting regarding the status of her nursing license in South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Licensee, on May 17, 2005, signed the Stipulation and Consent Order issued by the Minnesota Board of Nursing, which was approved by the Minnesota Board of Nursing on June 2, 2005; (said Stipulation and Consent Order is incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein); and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Board of Nursing, at its meeting July 30, 2005, considered the status of Licensee's South Dakota license; and

WHEREAS, Licensee's conduct as stated would be inconsistent with the health or safety of persons entrusted to her care and violates the rules and statutes regulating the practice of nursing and is in violation of SDCL § 36-9-49 (4), (7), and (10); and

WHEREAS, the Licensee recognizes that these matters, are of a nature which would constitute grounds for the discipline of her license to practice nursing in South Dakota under SDCL § 36-9-49; and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Board of Nursing (hereinafter "the Board") has a statutory obligation to protect the public health, safety and welfare set forth in SDCL § 36-9, including the protection of the public from unsafe nursing practices and practitioners; and

WHEREAS, the Licensee has requested the Board's Executive Secretary to present this Stipulation to the Board for action and recognize that the Board may approve this Stipulation, reject it, or modify it; and

WHEREAS, in the event the Board, in its discretion, does not approve this settlement or a lesser remedy than indicated in this settlement, this Stipulation is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced by either party. Licensee agrees that if the Board rejects this Stipulation and this case proceeds to hearing, Licensee will assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this Stipulation or any of the records or information relating hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Licensee has expressed a desire to resolve this matter without the necessity of additional formal disciplinary proceedings and hearings; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Stipulation to provide for a settlement of the licensing issues presented by the Licensee's conduct, in a professional manner, without the necessity of further hearings and proceedings herein, and to provide for a responsible solution; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. That the Board has jurisdiction over the person of the Licensee and the subject matter of this Stipulation.
- 2. Licensee, while licensed as a registered nurse in the State of Minnesota, admitted to diversion of controlled substances. Licensee is currently enrolled in the Health Professionals Assistance Program ("HPAP") in South Dakota. Licensee agrees her conduct violates SDCL 36-9-49 (4), (7) and (10), in that such conduct would be inconsistent with the health and safety of persons entrusted to her care and would violate provisions of the rules and statutes regulating the practice of nursing.
- 3. The Licensee has been given an opportunity to discuss this Stipulation with an attorney of Licensee's choice, and is aware of Licensee's right to a hearing in this matter, and of all rights under the United States and South Dakota Constitutions, laws, rules and/or regulations. Licensee hereby voluntarily waives all such rights to a hearing, notice, appearance, or any other rights under said Constitutions, laws, rules and/or regulations. Licensee is entering into this Stipulation voluntarily and without duress or

compulsion. Licensee also agrees that the Board's Executive Secretary may present this Stipulation to the Board and disclose to the Board all items of her investigation, including, but not limited to, any communications with Licensee.

4. That from the date this Stipulation is approved by the Board, Licensee's license to practice nursing is placed upon a probationary status for an indefinite period. but not less than thirty-six (36) months of active practice as a nurse or employment in nursing practice. The probationary terms and conditions set by the Board shall be completely followed by the Licensee. In addition, probationary terms and monitoring conditions shall be set by the HPAP and Licensee shall fully comply with these terms and conditions. After verification from the HPAP that Licensee has fully completed all monitoring terms, Licensee may petition the Board for closure of her probation. After twenty-four (24) months of successful practice under the terms of this Order, Licensee may petition for an early closure of probation. The duration of the terms of probation as set by the HPAP shall not be less than the initial term of thirty-six (36) months, and it is recognized that the Board may require additional probationary time or additional terms upon the completion of HPAP. Additionally, Licensee shall comply with the following during her probation:

CONDITIONS:

1. Licensee shall at any time during the period of probation, report in person to such meetings of the Board or to its designated representatives as directed and

otherwise fully cooperate with the Board or its representatives in the terms of this probation.

- 2. Licensee shall notify the Board as well as the HPAP, in writing, within one (1) week of any change in nursing employment, personal address and/or telephone number.
- 3. Licensee shall pay for all costs and expenses in carrying out any conditions of the probation.
- 4. Within ten (10) days of the effective date of the order, Licensee shall submit her current renewal certificate to the Board office to be stamped "PROBATION."
- 5. Notwithstanding anything in this Stipulation and Order to the contrary, should the Licensee be convicted of a felony, which would be grounds for discipline under SDCL § 36-9-49, either relating to the allegations which led to this probation or to any other actions or omissions of the Licensee, the Licensee agrees that the Board may take further action against Licensee's license, including, but not limited to immediate suspension. Licensee agrees to immediately inform the Board of the outcome of any criminal charges presently or hereafter pending against Licensee.
- 6. If Licensee violates any terms of this probation, the Licensee agrees that the Board may take such actions against Licensee's license, as the Board deems necessary, up to and including an immediate suspension, additional probation terms, revocation or other disciplinary action.

- 7. If Licensee obtains a license issued solely or under joint regulatory powers by the Board, other than the license to which this Stipulation refers, at any time during the period of the probation, the terms of this probation shall apply to the other or additional license(s) issued by the Board.
- 8. Licensee shall not violate any law or regulation regarding the practice of nursing.
- 9. Licensee shall not practice nursing in any state other than South Dakota which is a party state to the Nurse Licensure Compact without prior written authorization from both the Board and the nursing regulatory authority in the party state in which the Licensee desires to practice.
- 10. This probation also affects Licensee's practice privilege to practice in South Dakota should Licensee change her home state under the Nurse Licensure Compact and Licensee's practice privilege is subject to the same requirement set forth in this Order as her South Dakota license.
- 11. The Limitations and Conditions on Licensee as delineated in the Minnesota Stipulation and Consent Order, dated June 2, 2005, at paragraphs 8, 11, 12, and 14 are hereby adopted by the Board as a requirement of Licensee's probation as if set forth fully herein. These Limitations and Conditions shall be complied with by the Licensee and reviewed by the Board or its designated representatives at such meetings as requested under this Order of Probation.

NOW, THEREFORE, the foregoing Stipulation is entered into and is respectfully submitted to the Board with the request that the Board adopt its terms as an order of the Board in the above matter.

Dated this 2 day of 2005.

Darcy J. Knolls, RN - License R-033942

The South Dakota Board of Nursing meeting on the 30 day of ______,

2005 (approved) (rejected) the attached Stipulation (as written) (with the following modifications):

and issued its order of probation consistent herewith as follows:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above Stipulation is adopted as an Order of the South Dakota Board of Nursing this 30° day of _______, 2005, by a vote of _______.

Gloria Damgaard, Executive Secretary